<center>**REMARKS**</center>

In response to the above-identified Office Action, which rejected all pending claims 27, 28, and 33-38 (claims 29-32 having been withdrawn in connection with a Restriction requirement), Applicant seeks reconsideration in view of the following remarks and the amendments reflected in the claim listing above. No new matter has been added. After entry of the forgoing amendment, claims 27, 28, and 33-38 remain pending in the application.

## I.      Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 27, 28, 33, 36, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,461,627 ("Rypinski") in view of U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0089958 ("Feder"). Claims 34 and 35 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Rypinski combined with Feder and U.S. Pat. No. 6,701,361 ("Meir"). Claim 38 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Rypinski combined with U.S. Pat. No. 6,859,134 ("Heiman"). All of these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Rypinski discusses centralized wireless LAN functions in general, but merely discloses a proprietary way of providing wireless communications using *multiple antennas*. For ease of reference, Fig. 5 of this reference is reproduced below.

Rypinski does not disclose incorporating the routing table in the data switching hub to accomplish routing in accordance with a wireless communication standard protocol such that the access points can route data independent of the destination address.
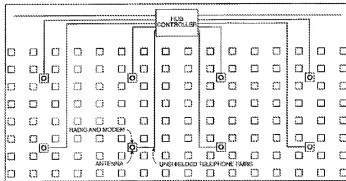


<center>*FIG...5*</center>

<center>4</center>

While Rypinski mentions the IEEE 802.11 standard briefly at col. 2, lines 9-12, it is apparent that this embodiment is directed to a proprietary communication method. It is therefore not a "wireless data communication standard protocol" as recited in the claims.

Rypinski also does not include "association" as recited in the claims. While Rypinski occasionally uses the term "association," the reference does so in a general sense, rather than the 802.11 sense. Rypinski is focused on using multiple antennas to simultaneously transmit to a single station (as in col. 23, line 15). The purpose of this is to reduce the effects of extraneous signals from other sources (see Background). The controller stores a common status directory which knows which access points successfully transmitted to a given mobile device (col. 23, line 27). But this is not the same as "association" as used in the claims.

The "registration" process mentioned by Rypinski is also not the same as association. In fact, each mobile unit of Rypinski is, if anything, associated with a particular HUB controller (as shown in FIG. 5). The specification makes it clear that HUB controller may try to transmit to any particular mobile unit through any number of access points, assuming that it had previously done so (or had been through the "registration" process). Thus, Rypinski relates to a conventional proprietary wireless system using multiple antennas.

In contrast, the present invention relates to what are now known as "thin" access points -- i.e., access points that have reduced MAC layer functionality and are connected to a switching hub by, for example, a wired Ethernet, but which still conform to a standard (such as WiFi, 802.11a/b/n, etc.). By handling addressing of packets within the hub, rather than in the AP, the AP is greatly simplified and is significantly faster, while still being an 802.11-type system.

Feder does not cure the defects of Rypinski. Feder, as the Examiner mentioned previously, *does* disclose the use of connection tables (Tables 1-3); however, the connection table in the access point of Feder (Table 1) must be consulted to effect delivery of messages, and the access points themselves must monitor the mobile unit address within the data packets to determine the address of the end-user modem. Stated another way, the access points of Feder do not act as "conduits." They use the connection ID (CID) and wireless modem address (WM) values to route the data to the correct wireless modem.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Rypinski nor Feder, taken alone or

5

in combination with any other art or record, include each and every element of the independent claims as currently amended, and furthermore that there is no motivation to combine the reference as suggested by the Examiner. As the remaining claims variously depend from the independent claims, these claims are also non-obvious for at least the reasons set forth above. Applicants therefore request that the Section 103 rejections be withdrawn.

## II.     Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (480) 385-5060 or dpote@ifllaw.com.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Ingrassia, Fisher & Lorenz

Date: August 31, 2010                    By     /DANIEL R. POTE/
                                                Daniel R. Pote
                                                Reg. No. 43,011
                                                (480) 385-5060